

Approved Windham Recreation Committee Minutes – June 20, 2013
Community Development Department, 3 North Lowell Rd, Windham, NH

Chairman Dennis Senibaldi called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Members Present:

Dennis Senibaldi, Tim Kelleher, Chris O'Neil, Mark Lucas

Also Present:

Recreation Coordinator Cheryl Haas and Selectman Liaison Kathleen DiFruscia.

Members Excused:

Bill Fidler

Members Absent:

Mike Caruso

Recreation Coordinator Updates:

Minutes:

The Record Retention Committee is working on minutes for all Town Committees. The minutes will be submitted to the Town Clerk at the end of each year for storage in the archives. Once the new website is launched, Ms. Haas will be posting the minutes herself on the website each month, first in draft form, then the approved minutes.

Town Day/Fireworks

Cheryl Haas reported that everything is all set for the fireworks – the toilets, the custodian, the band, the trash barrels, etc. The band plays at 7 pm, followed by fireworks at 9:15 pm.

For Town Day, volunteers are still needed. Ms. Haas will write a MEMO to Chief Lewis offering for the payment of an officer to drive the MULE in the parade around ball field to come out of the Recreation budget. Due to liability reason, bouncy houses are no longer an option at Recreation events. There will be the Community Band, barbeque, parade, kid's games. Ms. Haas reported that the Town van is going to pick up some seniors from the Senior Center and bring them to the event.

Pickle Ball:

Ms. Haas explained that pickle ball is a popular sport with older adults. It is played on a tennis court, and is a combination of tennis and ping pong. There is less stress on one's joints. A resident asked if lines could be painted on the Tokanel Court. The Committee had no problem with it, provided a Town Employee painted the lines. Ms. Haas will work with the resident and Maintenance Department on this.

Fields/Maintenance Update/Project Update:

There was some discussion regarding the Recreation budget and the Grounds Keeping budget, and how there is some cross over with the two. It was suggested to invite Jack McCartney to a Recreation Committee meeting to discuss future projects, etc.

Mr. Kelleher inquired if there are any additional projects planned for 2013. Mr. Senibaldi said that the only one is to bring level the rear of Griffin. This is dependent on cost, Jack's time, etc. Dave Poulson, Transfer Station Manager, is working with Jack on this, by looking into the cost of crushed glass.

Griffin Park Rear Field

Dennis Senibaldi reported that the rear of Griffin soccer/lacrosse field has some areas that need to be repaired. Boyden's Landscaping guaranteed the work and is re-sodding areas that did not take with the seed. Mrs. DiFruscia inquired why it did not take. Soccer will be using portions of the field starting August 12, 2013 for a camp they have. Mr. Kelleher suggested that in the future that the Committee do a better job of putting it in writing. Mr. Senibaldi noted that Ms. Haas sent several emails to soccer, dating back to February 2013 about the field closure.

Mr. Senibaldi noted that hopefully Searles Field will be over-seeded this fall, of which the funding comes out of the Grounds Keeping budget. Windham Soccer is fine with not using that field this fall. If there is over-seeding money in the Grounds Keeping budget in 2014, the hope is to over-seed the front of Griffin in the spring, and Windham Soccer is aware of this, and has no issues.

Griffin Park Swale Update

Mr. Senibaldi reported that Jack McCartney, Highway Agent, has told him that the rear of Griffin swale is almost completed. The rainy weather has set him back a bit. He has about 4-5 hours of work left. Boyden's Landscaping will be seeding and raking an area of this for \$500, of which will come out of the Grounds Keeping budget. The project is looking great.

Nashua Rd Swale Update

Mr. Senibaldi noted that the Nashua Rd Swale project is a joint project with Recreation, Conservation, Windham Soccer, and Maintenance/Highway. Trees have been cleared, the trail is passable, and the project is going well. The project will hopefully be completed in 4-5 weeks, depending on the weather and Jack's schedule.

Mr. Lucas noted that he had concerns about a loader going through the parking lot and by the t-ball bleachers on a Saturday during a t-ball game. Ms. Haas will work with Jack on this to make sure safety is a priority.

Old Business:

Griffin Park

Mrs. DiFruscia wanted to discuss the water by Johnson's Farm. Mr. Senibaldi received an update earlier in the day. Dennis reported that Dave Poulson, Transfer Station Manager and Stormwater Management Coordinator for the Town, spoke with DES about

it. He is meeting on June 21, 2013 at Griffin Park with a group of interested parties (Jack McCartney, DES, Derek Monson from CPIA) regarding this issue to put a plan forward. An update will be sent to Ms. Haas, who will forward it to the Committee.

Committee Rules

Mr. O'Neil made a recommendation for the Recreation Committee membership be changed from 7 members to 5 members, so a quorum would be 3. This will go for a vote at the next Recreation Committee meeting in July, then to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

Boat Launch Waiver Request

Ms. Haas informed the Committee that Mr. Higginbotham withdrew his request for a boat launch waiver.

Mr. Senibaldi asked if CPIA is interested in having a Committee regarding looking at the current rules, because it has been 30 years. He was hoping to have Recreation, CPIA, Dave Poulson (Storm Water), and DES on this 7 panel Committee. Ms. Haas will contact Greg Reneers, CPIA President, regarding this to form the Committee. Mrs. DiFruscia noted that the CPIA is educating people about Asian Clams, and they are trying to save the pond.

Mr. Senibaldi noted that Ms. Haas is working with Earl Bartlett from EARS regarding a camera system at the beach.

Speed Bumps at Griffin Park

Ms. Haas noted that she spoke with Town Administrator Dave Sullivan regarding the speed bumps. She will have Jack move forward with installing 4 temporary speed bumps. The funding was approved by the Board of Selectmen to come out of the Property Maintenance Trust. Ms. Haas will ask Jack to do this ASAP.

Skate Park Meeting Update

Mr. Kelleher updated the Committee on the meeting on June 18, 2013. The following were in attendance: Mr. Kelleher, Ms. Haas, Charlie McMahan, Peter Ventola, and Michelle Hutchings. Mr. Kelleher offered to meet with this group to help them with a plan, not lead the charge for a plan. Discussion came up in this meeting regarding Spruce Pond as a location, and Nashua Rd. The Committee felt that the matter is in the hands of the Board of Selectmen, and the ramps are out to bid.

New Business:

WBSL Sign Request:

After some discussion, the Committee asked the Ms. Haas invite Dave Macary from Windham Baseball to the next meeting to discuss.

Tree Lighting Memo from Police Chief:

Police Chief Gerry Lewis wrote a MEMO to the Recreation Committee asking that the location of the tree lighting be moved. It was a consensus of the Committee to keep the tree lighting at the Town Hall, Town Commons, etc. It is a tradition, and the only place where all the events can happen. It is only a 2 hour event, and there was a recommendation to close Church Rd. The Committee noted that Recreation can pay for officers if that would help that day to ensure safety.

Raft for Beach:

Recreation has \$2500 in the budget for a new raft this year. The prices that came in were higher. Dennis is going to look at a raft company in Nottingham, NH. Ms. Haas had received a quote from a company in Derry. After some discussion, Tim Kelleher made a motion to get a raft built and installed as soon as possible, by the July 4, 2013 weekend, with not to exceed \$6,000. Chris O'Neil seconded. Mr. Senibaldi noted that Ms. Haas needs to get approval from Mr. Sullivan due to the amount that was allotted for the raft. The vote carried 4-0. Mr. Senibaldi will be contacting the two companies to review the project.

Elections:

Chris O'Neil nominated Tim Kelleher as Chair; seconded by Dennis Senibaldi, the vote carried 4-0.

Tim Kelleher nominated Chris O'Neil as Vice-Chair, seconded by Dennis Senibaldi, the vote carried 4-0.

Chris O'Neil nominated Dennis Senibaldi as Treasurer, seconded by Tim Kelleher, the vote carried 4-0.

Dennis Senibaldi made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm; seconded by Chris O'Neil, the vote carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cheryl Haas
Recreation Coordinator